

Gaithersburg Presbyterian Church – August 16, 2020
Join us on YouTube!

Greeting

Call to Worship [responsive]

God, who created the heavens and stretched them out,

We praise you!

You made the earth and all that lives here:

We praise you!

You give breath to all creatures and your Spirit to your people:

We praise and thank you, O God!

So that the eyes of the blinded be opened, and the poor hear the good news,
the captives set free, the goodness of the world alive for all people,

Your kingdom come, O God; your will be done!

Then let us sing God a new song.

With joy let us honor our Maker.

Opening Prayer

Call to Confession

Friends, not out of dread and fear,

But believing in the understanding and forgiveness of God,
let us rid ourselves of what we need to carry no longer.

Let us bring our confession to God,

knowing that God will hear our prayers and forgive us.

Prayer of Confession [*together*]

God of mercy and grace,

we feel our hope slipping away.

We see people hungry, and sick, and wonder why.

We work hard, and despair about the outcome.

We fail to see the needs of others, and make selfish choices.

We forget to speak up for others, and take your gifts for granted.

**Forgive us, O God, when our strength is too shallow,
and our imagination too small.**

Giver of all hope,

transform us into people who live only for you.

In Jesus' name, Amen.

[Silence for Personal Prayer]

Assurance of Pardon

The Risen Christ is here, restoring, empowering, and strengthening us.

We are established as God's beloved people.

We are forgiven and made new in Christ's love.

Thanks be to God. Alleluia. Amen.

Music for Reflection

We Listen to God's Word

Scripture

Isaiah 40:28-31

²⁸ Have you not known? Have you not heard?

The Lord is the everlasting God,
the Creator of the ends of the earth.

He does not faint or grow weary;
his understanding is unsearchable.

²⁹ He gives power to the faint,
and strengthens the powerless.

³⁰ Even youths will faint and be weary,
and the young will fall exhausted;

³¹ but those who wait for the Lord shall renew their strength,
they shall mount up with wings like eagles,
they shall run and not be weary,
they shall walk and not faint.

Revelation 21: 1, 3-7

²¹ Then I saw a new heaven and a new earth; for the first heaven and the first earth had passed away, and the sea was no more.

³ And I heard a loud voice from the throne saying,
'See, the home of God is among mortals.

He will dwell with them;
they will be his peoples,
and God himself will be with them;

⁴ he will wipe every tear from their eyes.

Death will be no more;
mourning and crying and pain will be no more,
for the first things have passed away.'

5 And the one who was seated on the throne said, 'See, I am making all things new.'
Also he said, 'Write this, for these words are trustworthy and true.' 6Then he said to me,
'It is done! I am the Alpha and the Omega, the beginning and the end. To the thirsty I
will give water as a gift from the spring of the water of life. 7Those who conquer will
inherit these things, and I will be their God and they will be my children.

Leader: This is the Witness to God's Word. **People: Thanks be to God.**

Sermon

Things Get Broken: But Not Forever

Rev. Mary Austin

We Respond to God's Grace

Invitation to Generosity

Prayers of the People and The Lord's Prayer

Our Father, who art in heaven,
hallowed be thy name,
thy kingdom come, thy will be done,
on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread;
and forgive us our debts,
as we forgive our debtors;
and lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom,
and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.

We Depart for Service

***Announcements**

Passing the Peace

Greeting: "The peace of Christ be with you."

Response: "And also with you."

***Commission & Benediction**

Participating in the service:

Ms. Schola Muluh, Ms. Stacey Kum, Mr. Julius Akenji, Worship Leaders

Mr. Wade Meyers, Music Consultant / Organist

Rev. Mary Beth Lawrence

Rev. Mary Austin

The Call to Worship is from the worship resources of the Iona Community.